

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045920

Permit being assessed: PP3139GB.

For: Hafod Quarry Landfill Site, **held by:** Enovert North Limited

At: Hafod Quarry Landfill Bangor Road, Johnstown, Wrexham, LL14 6ET.

Type of assessment: Audit,

Reason: Routine.

On: 12/12/2024 between 12:00 and 13:15.

Parts of permit assessed: Waste Acceptance .

NRW Lead Officer: Kathryn Bradshaw, accompanied by Jamie Blythin.

Report sent to: Waste Acceptance Manager, Waste Acceptance Manager, on 21/01/2025.

1. Summary of our findings (full details in section 4)

| Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria) | Assessment result | Permit condition |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|
| IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management | C3 Minor | 1.1 General Management |
| IR2H - Installations - Operations - Waste acceptance (only applicable to landfill) | Action only (X) | |
| IR2C - Installations - Operations - Operating techniques | Assessed (A) | |

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

| Total non-compliances recorded | Total non-compliance score |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 4 |

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

| Criteria | Action needed | Complete by |
|----------|---|-------------|
| IR1A | Implement a review schedule for all waste producers to ensure the site has all the correct information which is current and accurate. | 31/03/2025 |
| IR2H | Confirm what the site limits are, in terms of pH and sulphates for those wastes tested from waste transfer stations and | 28/02/2025 |

| Criteria | Action needed | Complete by |
|----------|--|-------------|
| | those that qualify for the lower rate of landfill tax. | |

Compliance criteria codes are listed in the 'Important information' section below.

3. What will happen next?

Any non-compliance we have identified and recorded on this form is an offence. It can result in criminal prosecution and/or suspension or revocation of your permit.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

This statement does not stop us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.

4. Details of our assessment

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) has been raised following a detailed waste acceptance audit. The waste acceptance procedure (SHE-OP-200 V6) was used as a reference during the audit.

The following information was requested from the operator based on a random selection of waste types from the Q1 and Q2 2024 monitoring returns:

- Waste Transfer Notes
- Copies of the waste acceptance verification including any sampling and testing reports either from the waste producer or the site.
- Routine sampling and testing reports of the waste types listed as per Section 9, compliance sampling and testing, of your procedure.

The following EWC codes were selected for the audit covering a number of waste producers:

10 01 01 bottom ash, slag and boiler dust (excluding boiler dust mentioned in 10 01 04)

19 01 12 bottom ash and slag other than those mentioned in 19 01 11

19 01 02 ferrous materials removed from bottom ash

12 01 15 machining sludges other than those mentioned in 12 01 14

19 12 09 minerals (for example sand, stones)

19 12 12 other wastes (including mixtures of materials) from mechanical treatment of wastes other than those mentioned in 19 12 11

19 02 06 sludges from physico/chemical treatment other than those mentioned in 19 02 05

17 05 04 soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03

17 01 01 concrete

20 01 99 other fractions not otherwise specified

02 02 03 materials unsuitable for consumption or processing

20 01 08 biodegradable kitchen and canteen waste

18 01 04 wastes whose collection and disposal is not subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection (for example dressings, plaster casts, linen, disposable clothing, diapers)

19 08 01 screenings

All of the required information was supplied by 1st November 2024. This was reviewed and in general the procedure was followed with all relevant testing and information provided. The EWC codes were checked against the permit to ensure all of the wastes could be accepted on site. All wastes accepted on site complied with the permit.

The waste acceptance procedure (SHE-OP-200) states that once approved by a qualified waste assessor, the waste producer must complete a waste characterisation summary (WCS).

The WCS for some of the producers were a number of years old.

Tradebe WCS was completed and signed on 17/03/16

Veolia WCS was completed and signed on 10/09/19

Biogen WCS was completed and signed on 03/10/19 & 03/10/20

No WCS was provided for the waste producer, Wastecare although further information that was provided supports the waste characterisation.

The procedure does not state a review date for these, it only states the following:

In the event of substantial changes to a waste stream, (e.g. change of producer site, EWC code or description) the assessment will be reviewed and the material set up with a new DA number. The existing contract will be closed and comments will be added against that contract.

There is a section on the WCS to be completed to describe any odours. This section was not completed by the producer, Biogen for odorous wastes.

For waste producers depositing waste that qualifies for the lower rate of landfill tax, the form - Qualifying questionnaire and declaration was completed. These should be reviewed annually but no dates were included in the questionnaires although all questionnaires were in date when the audit was conducted.

Score

Due to the issues highlighted above a combined score of C3 has been applied against permit condition 1.1. General Management.

Action 1.

Implement a review schedule for all waste producers to ensure the site has all the correct information which is current and accurate.

The different waste streams audited complied with the requirements of the guidance on the sampling and testing of the wastes accepted on site.

Test results and analysis were provided for those wastes originating from waste transfer stations and wastes that qualify for the lower rate of landfill tax. On some of the compliance test results there were elevated pH and sulphate levels.

Action 2.

Confirm what the site limits are, in terms of pH and sulphates, for those wastes tested from waste transfer stations and those that qualify for the lower rate of landfill tax.

Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA)

On some of the analysis results provided, high levels of metals were found. The details for dealing with non-conforming samples is provided in the waste acceptance procedure, Section 9.4. Further information received from site confirmed that the use of the WRC IBA waste characterisation guidance (2012) was referred to. **Please note**, this protocol applies to IBA produced from the combustion of municipal waste only and cannot be applied to clinical waste combustion.

The site has confirmed that it no longer accepts this waste stream 19 01 12 bottom ash from the waste producer in Wrexham.

On 12th December 2024 during an unannounced site inspection we visited the weighbridge to check if the site was following the procedures as set out in SHE-OP-200 V6. Two loads were viewed being weighed in and paperwork checked. The weighbridge operator also demonstrated how the system works with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) at the site entrance which links to a waste producer with a disposal authorisation (DA) number. This information is all logged and kept on the electronic weighbridge system. All information and paperwork was checked before the vehicle was allowed to enter the site. A camera is also located at the weighbridge which allows the operator to view the top of the waste load. The driver was then directed to a location on the landfill, depending on waste type. One load viewed was municipal waste and the vehicle was directed to the main tipping face. As the load was being tipped a site operative was checking the waste being tipped for any non-conforming wastes.

Another load that was viewed was non-infectious clinical waste which was directed to a red trailer located close to the site entrance. The vehicle driver then manually unloaded the waste bags into the trailer. This type of waste gets emptied once per day for 'deep burial'.

This waste type had a strong ammonia type of odour.

During the site walk over piles of Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) waste were seen on the track to the main tipping face. The site manager explained that IBA waste is kept to one side for about a week to check for 'hotspots' before it is then moved and incorporated into the landfill which is generally used as cover material.

A number of sample pots were being stored outside the weighbridge awaiting collection by a courier to transport them to the laboratory for testing. The weighbridge operator fully explained the procedure stated in SHE-OP-200. The samples had the date ranges from 09/12/24 to 11/12/24.

If you have any queries about this report, or to discuss completion of any actions, please contact the NRW Officer named above.

Important information

Legal status of this report

Your permit is issued to you under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your permit and prevent pollution/harm of the environment. You must also ensure that you comply with any other relevant legislation that may apply to your site's operations.

This report explains the findings of our assessment and any action you are required to take. We categorise non-compliance using our guidance for assessing non-compliance at regulated sites.

When we find potential non-compliance/s we will normally give you advice on how to maintain compliance.

To correct non-compliance, we may:

- require you to take specific actions
- issue a notice
- review the conditions of your permit.

Any advice and guidance we give will be without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.

Assessment results and non-compliance categories (used in section 1):

| Assessment result | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| Assessed (A) | Assessed or assessed in part, no evidence of non-compliance found |
| Action only (X) | Action only relating to the activity assessment |
| Ongoing (O) | Ongoing non-compliance, not scored |

| Non-compliance category | Description | Score |
|----------------------------|---|-------|
| C1 Major | Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property | 60 |
| C2 Significant | Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property | 31 |
| C3 Minor | Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property | 4 |
| C4 No environmental impact | Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property | 0.1 |

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator

Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend scores for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. Suspended scores will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of Industry compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1. Management

- IR1A – General management
- IR1B – Finance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR1C – Energy efficiency
- IR1D - Efficient use of raw materials
- IR1E - Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities
- IR1F - Multiple operator installations

2. Operations

- IR2A – Permitted activities
- IR2B – The site
- IR2C – Operating techniques
- IR2D – Technical requirements
- IR2E – Improvement programme
- IR2F – Pre-operational conditions
- IR2G – Landfill engineering (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2H – Waste acceptance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2I – Leachate levels (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2J – Closure and aftercare (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2K – Landfill gas management (only applicable to Landfill)

3. Emission and Monitoring

- IR3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- IR3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- IR3C – Odour
- IR3D – Noise and vibration
- IR3E – Monitoring
- IR3F – Pests
- IR3G – Air quality management plans
- IR3H – Monitoring for the purposes of the Industrial Emissions Directive (this heading includes Large Combustion Plants)
- IR3I – Fire

4. Information

- IR4A – Records
- IR4B – Reporting
- IR4C – Notification

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a permit condition is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution, serving a notice on you and/or

suspension or revocation of your permit. See our Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance for further information.

Data protection notice

You should make sure that anyone named in this report knows that the information it contains will be processed by Natural Resources Wales to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s).

We may also use and/or disclose the report in connection with:

- offering or providing you with our literature or services relating to environmental matters
- consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (e.g. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- providing public register information to enquirers
- investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- assessing customer service satisfaction and improving our service
- Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations requests.

We may also pass it on to our agents or representatives to do these things on our behalf.

Disclosure of information – this report will be available to view on-line

If you think this report contains commercially confidential information that should not be placed on our public register, you must contact your local Natural Resources Wales office within **fifteen working days** of receiving this report, using the contact details in the accompanying email or letter. You must give a full explanation of why it should not be added to our public register, including specifying which information is commercially confidential. We will assess your request and respond to you within twenty working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 to 18:00), or email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at ask@ombudsman.wales

Welsh Language Standards

We are committed to establishing Natural Resources Wales as a naturally bilingual organisation. We will provide compliance reports in your preferred language.